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Commission for Social Development
Forty-fourth session
8-17 February 2006
Agenda item 5
Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-fourth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Victor **Leu** (Republic of Moldova)

Chapter ____. Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission for Social Development held its forty-fourth session at United Nations Headquarters on 18 February 2005 and from 8 to 17 February 2006. The Commission held ___ meetings (1st to ___).

B. Attendance

2. The session was attended by representatives of ____ States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended. The list of participants is contained in annex ____ to the present report.

C. Election of officers

3. In subparagraph (c) of its decision 2002/210 of 13 February 2002, the Economic and Social Council decided that immediately following the closure of a regular session, the Commission would hold the first meeting of its subsequent regular session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chairperson and other members of the Bureau. In pursuance of that decision, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation at its 1st meeting, on 18 February 2005:

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Chairperson:
Ernesto Araníbar Quiroga (Bolivia)

Vice-Chairpersons:
Valérie Bruell-Melchior (Monaco)
Victor Leu (Republic of Moldova)

4. Also at its 1st meeting, the Commission postponed the election of the remaining members of the Bureau.

5. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 February 2006, the Commission was informed that Mr. Araníbar Quiroga could no longer carry out his functions as Chairperson.

6. Accordingly, the Commission proceeded to elect Javier Loayza Barea (Bolivia), by acclamation, as Chairperson to replace Mr. Araníbar Quiroga.

7. At the same meeting, the Commission elected, by acclamation, Nina Saraswati Djajaprawira (Indonesia) and Luvuyo Lonsdale Ndimeni (South Africa) as Vice-Chairpersons, thus completing the election of the Bureau for the forty-fourth session.

8. Also at its 2nd meeting, the Commission designated Victor Leu (Republic of Moldova) to also assume the responsibilities of Rapporteur for the session.

D. Agenda and organization of work

9. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 February, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda, as contained in document E/CN.5/2006/1, as revised. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters: further review of the methods of work of the Commission.
3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:
   (a) Priority theme: review of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006);
   (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:
      (i) World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;
      (ii) World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;
      (iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;
      (iv) Family issues, policies and programmes.
4. Provisional agenda for the forty-fifth session of the Commission.
5. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-fourth session.

10. Also at the 2nd meeting, the Commission approved its organization of work, as contained in annex I to document E/CN.5/2006/1.

E. Documentation

11. The list of documents before the Commission at its forty-fourth session is contained in annex ____ to the present report.

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Commission for Social Development
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Agenda item 3 (b) (iii)
Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups: Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Andorra,* Austria,* Bolivia, China, Czech Republic, Denmark,* Estonia,* Finland, France, Germany, Greece,* Hungary,* Ireland,* Italy, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland,* Portugal,* Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain, Sweden* and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:* draft resolution

Modalities for the first review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing

The Commission for Social Development,

Recalling that in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[1] adopted by the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002, the systematic review of its implementation by Member States was requested as being essential for its success in improving the quality of life of older persons and that the modalities of the review and appraisal were to be decided as soon as possible,

Bearing in mind that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2003/14 of 21 July 2003, invited Governments, the United Nations system and civil society to participate in a bottom-up approach to the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action,

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* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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Mindful that in its resolution 42/1 it decided to undertake the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years,

Taking note of the report by the Secretary-General on modalities for the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action,[2]

1. *Endorses* the calendar for the first cycle of the review and appraisal proposed in the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

2. *Decides* to start the first global cycle of review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action in 2007 at its forty-fifth session and to conclude it in 2008 at its forty-sixth session;

3. *Endorses* as the global theme for the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action: "Addressing the challenges and opportunities of ageing";

4. *Recommends* that the format of the concluding event of the first cycle of review and appraisal include, along with plenary debate, a series of panel discussions and parallel events related to the theme of the first review and appraisal cycle;

5. *Invites* those Member States that have not done so to establish their national mechanisms for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action at the national level and to inform the Secretariat accordingly, including the contact details of the national mechanisms, in order to facilitate international cooperation and exchange of information and good practices;

6. *Encourages* Member States to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action, bearing in mind the importance of mainstreaming ageing into global agendas;

7. *Invites* Member States to undertake an initial identification of actions they have taken since the Second World Assembly on Ageing in 2002, with the aim of presenting this information to the Commission at its forty-fifth session in 2007, and requests Member States to identify specific areas for in-depth participatory inquiries using a bottom-up approach so that each country may establish for itself the action or activity it intends to review, utilizing such an approach;

8. *Invites* all major stakeholders, including civil society, to participate in the process of the review and appraisal and contribute to its various activities and events;

9. *Welcomes* the draft guidelines proposed by the Secretary-General for the review and appraisal process, and requests that they be made available in all official languages of the United Nations;

10. *Requests* the Secretariat to work with the organizations, organs and bodies of the United Nations system and other interested parties to coordinate efforts in identifying support that could be provided to Governments, upon their request, in undertaking participatory review and appraisal of the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action;

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[2] E/CN.5/2006/2.

[3] Ibid., paras. 34-38.

11. *Requests* the regional commissions to identify appropriate modalities for conducting the regional review and appraisal, encourages the convening of regional review and appraisal activities, and invites interested Governments to offer support and assistance, including voluntary financial contributions, to support national action in the context of the regional implementation and the convening of regional review and appraisal activities and events during 2006-2007;

12. *Recommends* to the Economic and Social Council the integration of ageing into monitoring, review and appraisal exercises of other major international development initiatives and policy frameworks, including the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[4] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[5] the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[6] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[7] and the Beijing Platform for Action[8] and their follow-up processes;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it, at its forty-fifth session in 2007, a report on major developments in the area of ageing since the Second World Assembly, which will include short regional contributions by the regional commissions;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it, at its forty-sixth session in 2008, a report, including the conclusions of the first review and appraisal exercise along with the identification of prevalent and emerging issues and related policy options.

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[4] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[5] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[7] Ibid., annex II.

[8] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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Commission for Social Development
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Agenda item 3 (b) (ii)
Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups: World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond

Azerbaijan,* Colombia,* Indonesia, Kenya,* Mali, Morocco,* Nigeria,* Senegal, Sierra Leone* and Sudan:* draft resolution

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Promoting youth employment

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the resolve of Heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] to develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work, and, as contained in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people, a central objective of their relevant national and international policies as well as their national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling and reaffirming the commitments relating to youth employment made at the major United Nations conferences and summits since 1990 and their follow-up processes,

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[2] See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

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Recalling General Assembly resolution 54/120 of 17 December 1999, in which the Assembly took note with appreciation of the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes adopted at the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in 1998,[3] which set forth important commitments regarding youth employment, and recalling also Assembly resolutions 56/117 of 19 December 2001 and 57/165 of 18 December 2002,

Recognizing that young people are an asset for sustainable economic growth and social development, and expressing deep concern about the magnitude and disproportionate effect upon youth of unemployment and underemployment throughout the world and its profound implications for the future of our societies,

Recognizing also that Governments have a primary responsibility to educate young people, to encourage them to seek training so as to increase their employability and to create an enabling environment that will promote youth employment,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the global analysis and evaluation of national action plans on youth employment;[4]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Economic Commission for Africa entitled *Economic Report on Africa, 2005: Meeting the Challenges of Unemployment and Poverty in Africa*;[5]

3. *Encourages* Governments that have prepared national reviews and action plans on youth employment to move forward to implementation, and Governments that have not yet prepared their reviews, national action plans, or progress reports to do so as soon as possible;

4. *Also encourages* Governments to develop their national action plans through collaboration among government, representative youth organizations, employers' and workers' organizations and civil society, and to promote partnerships among public authorities, the private sector, educational institutions and civil society, and to integrate these action plans into their broader national development programmes, including poverty reduction strategy documents where they exist, to create methodology to evaluate these plans and strategies and to prioritize therein the necessary resources for implementation of these plans;

5. *Further encourages* Governments to devise and employ new policy-oriented indicators to monitor and evaluate progress on implementing their national action plans, and invites the Youth Employment Network to coordinate the work of its core partners to establish an improved indicator that takes into account not only those young people in open unemployment, but also those who are in education, who are underemployed, who are working in the informal economy or who may have dropped out of the labour market altogether;

6. *Urges* Governments to consider youth employment as integral to their overall strategies for development and collective security, and within this context to give renewed attention to the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] commitment concerning decent and productive work for young people as key to achieving the Millennium Development Goals;

[3] See WCMRY/1998/28, chap. I, resolution 1.
[4] A/60/133.
[5] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.K.9.

7. *Renews* the invitation contained in General Assembly resolutions 57/165 of 18 December 2002 and 58/133 of 22 December 2003 to the International Labour Organization, in collaboration with the Secretariat and the World Bank and other relevant specialized agencies, and within the framework of the Youth Employment Network, to assist and support, upon request, the efforts of Governments in the elaboration and implementation of national reviews and action plans;

8. *Encourages* Governments to facilitate interaction among educational institutions, and the public and private sectors to prevent unemployment and the low returns on investment in training that result from a skills mismatch, and in this regard, calls for technical support from relevant United Nations organizations and the international community for national and regional programmes such as the New Partnership in Africa's Development[6] and other regional economic groups so as to facilitate public-private integration;

9. *Invites* new countries and partner organizations to join the Youth Employment Network and encourages the lead countries to strengthen the work of the Network as a peer exchange, support and review mechanism, and in support of the further development of this mechanism, invites the International Labour Organization in close cooperation with the World Bank and the Secretariat, within the framework of the Youth Employment Network, to undertake regular updates of the global analysis and evaluation of progress made in the development and implementation of national reviews and action plans on youth employment;

10. *Recommends* that the Youth Consultative Group of the Youth Employment Network be strengthened so that, in addition to its overall advisory role, there can be a more active role played at the country level by its constituent youth organizations in supporting the development and implementation of national action plans;

11. *Encourages* Governments to promote the participation of their national youth organizations in supporting the development and implementation of their national action plans on youth employment;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the provision by some Member States of expertise and financial resources to support the activities of the Youth Employment Network, and invites all Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the Network in support of action taken at the country level within the framework of the Network;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2007 a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including progress achieved by the Youth Employment Network.

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[6] A/57/304, annex.

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Agenda item 3 (b) (i)
Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups: World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons

Colombia,* Costa Rica,* Cuba,* Dominican Republic, El Salvador,* Guatemala,* Israel,* Japan, Mexico,* Morocco,* Paraguay, Philippines,* South Africa and Uruguay:* draft resolution

Comprehensive and integral international convention to protect and promote the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Comprehensive and integral international convention to protect and promote the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities

"*The Economic and Social Council,*

"*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 56/168 of 19 December 2001, by which the Assembly established an Ad Hoc Committee, open to the participation of all Member States and observers of the United Nations, to consider proposals for a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, based on the holistic approach in the work carried out in the fields of social development, human rights and non-discrimination and taking into account the recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission for Social Development,

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

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"*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/10 of 21 July 2005 on a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities,

"*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 60/232 of 23 December 2005,

"*Reaffirming* the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the need for their full enjoyment to be guaranteed to persons with disabilities, without discrimination,

"*Convinced* of the contribution that a convention will make in this regard, and welcoming the firm support of the international community for such a convention and the continued engagement in its elaboration,

"*Recognizing* the strong commitment and the positive steps taken by Governments to promote and protect the rights and inherent dignity of persons with disabilities, including through collaboration and cooperation at the regional and international levels, with the aim of strengthening national capacities and supporting national efforts in order to improve the living conditions of persons with disabilities in all regions,

"*Welcoming* the important contributions made so far to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee by all stakeholders,

"1. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the Ad Hoc Committee in the negotiation of a draft convention at its seventh session, and invites Member States and observers to continue to participate actively and constructively in the Committee, with the aim of concluding a draft convention and submitting it to the General Assembly, as a matter of priority, for adoption, at its sixty-first session;

"2. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to contribute to the process of negotiation of a draft international convention, bearing in mind its area of expertise and the positive impact of a convention in promoting an inclusive approach to social development;

"3. *Welcomes* the contributions of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission to the process of elaboration of a draft convention, and requests the Special Rapporteur to contribute further to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, drawing from her experience in the monitoring of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities;[1]

"4. *Requests* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to support the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, and underlines the importance of continuing cooperation and coordination between the two offices in order to provide substantive and technical support to the Committee and to promote public awareness regarding its work, including in collaboration with the Special Rapporteur;

[1] General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex.

"5. *Requests* bodies, organs and entities of the United Nations system to continue to participate, as appropriate, in the Ad Hoc Committee and to contribute to its work;

"6. *Invites* non-governmental organizations, national disability and human rights institutions and independent experts with an interest in the matter to continue their active participation and contributions to the Ad Hoc Committee, and encourages the relevant bodies of the United Nations to continue to promote and support such active participation of civil society, in accordance with General Assembly decision 56/510 of 23 July 2002 and Assembly resolution 57/229 of 18 December 2002;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur to report to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution."